City Council of the Mayor and Council of New Castle Regular Council Meeting at Town Hall – 201 Delaware Street – New Castle Tuesday – September 14, 2010 – 7 p.m.

Present:

Council President William Barthel Councilperson John Cochran Councilperson John Gaworski

Absent:

Councilperson Ted Megginson; Councilperson Teel Petty

Council President Barthel said Mr. Megginson was on vacation and Mrs. Petty was going to try to join the meeting later.

Also present: Mayor Jack Klingmeyer, Treasurer Janet Carlin, City Administrator Cathryn Thomas, Police Chief Kevin McDerby, Building Official Jeff Bergstrom, City Solicitor Roger Akin

Approval of Minutes by Date

A motion was made by Councilperson Cochran to approve the minutes of the August 10 and August 30 meetings as written. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Gaworski. It was approved unanimously.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Carlin reported that, as of August 31, 2010, total petty cash on hand was \$400; total monthly deposit, \$2,244,789.46; total cash for accounts, \$462,749.19; total certificates of deposit and Delaware Government Investment Pool, \$2,711,075.22; and total cash on hand, \$3,173,824.41.

Councilperson Gaworski made a motion to accept the report as presented. Councilperson Cochran seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Report from the City Administrator

Administrator Thomas said the City Council will have a special meeting in Dobbinsville regarding the planned police substation. The meeting is on September 16 at 6 p.m., to be held in the Dobbinsville neighborhood.

Council President Barthel said the report was accepted as presented.

Approval of Staff Reports

Council President Barthel said the staff reports were accepted as presented.

Grant Review

Councilperson Cochran said under grant income: Delaware Solid Waste Authority Rebate, \$33,255.54; grant expense: stimulus grant \$5,177; stimulus grant, \$160.11; and JAG grant, \$175.

Business from the Floor (concerning agenda items only)

No comments from the floor.

Business from the Council President

President Barthel provided an update on the City's plans for its website. The City recognizes a need to update its site and plans to pursue that. The way the City will proceed is how it is supposed to: going

out to bid. The City is going to put out requests for proposals. He expects it to generate enough competition to ensure the City gets the best bang for its buck to improve the current website.

Administrator Thomas said over the upcoming weeks the City will work to develop the RFP to get out to potential vendors.

President Barthel said the City Council is privileged to be able to honor three people whose actions and quick response helped save people who were trapped in a house fire back on July 30 on Moore's Lane. He said residents Sarah Lashbrook, Joseph Scalia and Rick Woytowich are truly deserving of the recognition.

Councilperson Cochran made a motion to approve a resolution honoring Sarah Lashbrook. Councilperson Gaworski seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Councilperson Cochran made a motion to approve a resolution honoring Rick Woytowich. Councilperson Gaworski seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Councilperson Cochran made a motion to approve a resolution honoring Joseph Scalia. Councilperson Gaworski seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

President Barthel said items No. 1 and No. 2 under Unfinished Business and No. 3 under New Business on the published agenda have been withdrawn.

New Business

1. Discussion, motion and vote on Resolution No. 2010-28, approving an easement agreement between the City and Mr. Keith Adams, where a small easement shall be granted on Dalby Alley, a City street, so that Mr. Adams may place a bollard at the corner of his residential building, located at 110 Delaware Street, to protect it from potential impacts of vehicles traversing the alley.

Solicitor Akin provided an update on the agreement and the protection of the City's interests.

Councilperson Cochran made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilperson Gaworski seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

2. Discussion, motion and vote on Resolution No. 2010-29, awarding a bid for the purchase of a new Trash Truck.

The bid was awarded to GranTurk Equipment Co. for a total bid amount of \$141,806, which is the low bid that meets the exact specifications.

Administrator Thomas explained the City will be seeking five-year financing for this lease/purchase. It is a purchase approved to be funded by the Trustees of the New Castle Common. She expressed thanks to the Trustees.

Councilperson Cochran made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilperson Gaworski seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

3. Discussion, motion and vote on a Bank Resolution, approving \$245,000 paid to Delaware National Bank, to be deposited into a Money Market account.

Councilperson Cochran explained it involves money in the general account and the City is trying to make sure it is federally insured. It also triples the interest rate.

Councilperson Cochran made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilperson Gaworski seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

4. Comments from the floor.

Mr. Ennio DiAlessandro asked what was next regarding the barricades on Seventh and Delaware streets.

President Barthel said the next action will be counters on Seventh and Sixth streets.

Mrs. Esther Lovlie, on behalf of the Historic New Castle Alliance, asked about the goal and focus of the RFP for the website. She asked also what it will look like and whether the focus will change.

President Barthel said a lot of what the City Council will be doing is looking for people with experience on other sites. There has not been a budget set yet.

Mrs. Thomas said the City is looking for a general update to make it more modern. There is already a lot of community information on the site, but a decision has not been made on how to enhance it. A key is maintaining the site as related to the City's core businesses of government operations and how people can get information on that.

A resident who lives on Bryglon Avenue complained about a hair dresser shop where cars park all over the area. He said he has called police about it. The cars are blocking traffic and trash is thrown all around. He would like to see the police start writing tickets. Chief McDerby suggested the resident meeting with him immediately following the meeting so he could get his name and contact information so the matter could be addressed.

Delaware Greenways Executive Director Mark Chura gave a presentation concerning a grant award and about the organization's efforts. It has applied for and been awarded a \$30,000 grant that it will manage of behalf of the City. The Trustees of the New Castle Common matched it. They will be looking at the Broad Dyke and trails and how to put in a trailhead. They are also looking at the Hermitage property.

This fall, the organization will kick off a wellness program, doing a communitywide assessment. They are going to be talking about things that have been successful elsewhere and look at things for New Castle. They do have money to conduct programs. There is no cost to the City, it's in the grant.

He will need a small group to help determine what the City would like to happen.

Councilperson Cochran made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Gaworski seconded the motion. It passed unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Dickinson, New Castle City Clerk